

BENTON CONSOLIDATED HIGH SCHOOL
Benton, Illinois 62812
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
February 15, 2024

The Board of Education of the Benton Consolidated High School District #103 met in Regular Session on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 5:24 P.M. in the District Board Room. President, Mark Minor called the meeting to order.

Jim Giacone opened in prayer and Jay Copple led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Mark Minor, President; Shane Cockrum, Vice President; Marci Glover, Secretary; Jay Copple, Jim Giacone, Robin LaBuwi and Stacia Sloan.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Ron Giacone, Board Attorney; Ronda Suver, Recording Secretary; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary Trainee; Cole Buchanan, Student Council Representative; students and parents.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

4.1 Appointment/Compensation/Discipline/Performance of Personnel

4.2 Setting a Price for Sale or Lease of Property

4.3 Student Disciplinary Case

Jay Copple made the motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Appointment, Compensation, Discipline, and Performance of Personnel; Setting a Price for Sale or Lease of Property; and a Student Disciplinary Case. Shane Cockrum seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

The Board; Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Ron Giacone, Board Attorney; Ronda Suver, Recording Secretary; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary Trainee; and a student and his family entered into an Executive Session at 5:33 P.M.

Open Session - The Board reconvened in an Open Session at 7:42 P.M. Marci Glover, Secretary called the roll. Answering present: Jay Copple – yes, Jim Giacone – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, Mark Minor – yes, and Marci Glover – yes. Board member absent: Shane Cockrum.

Others present: Benjamin Johnson, Superintendent; Sean Docherty, Principal; Ron Giacone, Board Attorney; Ronda Suver, Recording Secretary; Kenise Head, Recording Secretary Trainee; Cole Buchanan, Student Council Representative; and students.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approve Minutes: Regular Board Meeting Minutes, January 18, 2024

Executive Board Meeting Minutes, January 18, 2024

5.2 Approve Financial Report (January 2024)

5.3 Approve Payment of Bills (January 2024)

5.4 Review/Approve District Seniority List (ENCL A)

5.5 Review/Approve Affiliation Agreement with SIUE (ENCL B)

5.6 Review/Approve 2023-2024 Amended School Calendar (ENCL C)

5.7 Review/Approve QNS Technology Support Service Agreement (ENCL D)

5.8 Review/Approve Pep Club Executive Board Field Trip Request to STL (ENCL E)

Regular Board Meeting – page 2
February 15, 2024

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Jim Giacone seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, members voted as follows: Jim Giacone – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Stacia Sloan – yes, and Mark Minor – yes. Motion Carried. A copy of ENCL B, ENCL C, and ENCL D have been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

9.1 Possible Student Disciplinary Case Jim Giacone made a motion to approve the Resolution regarding expulsion of student 103007295 as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of this Resolution has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REMARKS

Mr. Johnson commented on the following:

- Financial Update
- PA System Upgrade in Rich Herrin Gym
- RLC Dual Credit Opportunities
- TI Day 3/19/2024
- BCHS Hosting Boys' Basketball Sectional
- School Maintenance Project Grant approved by ISBE
- Branding Committee Update

Mr. Docherty & Mr. Miller provided written reports.

7. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS Cole Buchanan informed the board of the establishment of the Young Americans for Freedom Club.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.2 Employment of Personnel Robin LaBuwi made a motion to approve the MOU with the BEA to split the assistant softball stipend for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of this MOU had been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Jim Giacone made a motion to employ Jennifer Schlag as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year pending certification. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.3 Assignment of Personnel Jay Copple made a motion to assign Amy Jones to the assistant girls track coaching position for the 2023-24 school year. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, members voted as follows: Stacia Sloan – no, Robin LaBuwi – yes, Jim Giacone – yes, Marci Glover – yes, Mark Minor – yes, and Jay Copple – yes. Motion carried.

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to assign Kellie Griffith as the head girls volleyball coach for the 2024-25 school year. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Regular Board Meeting – page 3
February 15, 2024

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to assign Blane Miller as an assistant football coach pending a complete and positive background check and EHR for the 2023-24 school year. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

Robin LaBuwi made a motion to assign Brent McLain as a volunteer assistant track coach for the 2023-24 school year. Jim Giacone seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

9.4 Review/Approve Posting of Open Positions

9.5 Review/Approve 2024-2025 School Calendar Jim Giacone made a motion to approve the 2024-25 school calendar as presented. Jay Copple seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, members voted as follows: Mark Minor – yes, Robin LaBuwi – no, Jim Giacone – yes, Jay Copple – yes, Marci Glover – yes, and Stacia Sloan - no. Motion carried. A copy of this calendar has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

9.6 Review/Approve Resolution for Sale of District Property Jay Copple made a motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Sale and Conveyance of School District Owned Property. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried. A copy of this Resolution has been attached to and made a part of these minutes.

10. BOARD OF EDUCATION REMARKS

- Stacia Sloan made a request for the athletic committee to review the process of hiring assistant coaches.
- Mark Minor stated that he would like to see the school discuss the RHG P.A. System with some local vendors/technicians to determine improvement options.

11. ADJOURNMENT Jay Copple made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 P.M. Robin LaBuwi seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.

BOARD PRESIDENT

BOARD SECRETARY